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10/663,416
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Bruce B. Randolph, Marvin M. Johnson, and Glenn W. Dodwell

Serial No.: 10/663,416

Group Art Unit: 1764

Filed: September 16, 2003

Examiner: Thuan D. Dang

For: ISOPARAFFIN-OLEFIN ALKYLATION

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Claims 1-29 are presently pending the application.

Responsive to the Requirement for Election, Applicants hereby elect the claims of Group I, claims 1-9, drawn to a composition, classified in Class 502, Subclass 216, but respectfully request reconsideration of the Requirement for Restriction for the reasons given below.

Non-elected Group II, claims 10-18, drawn to a method of making a composition, classified in Class 502, Subclass 216, and Non-elected Group III, claims 19-29, drawn to an alkylation process, classified in Class 585, Subclass 730, are retained in the application pending reconsideration of the Requirement for Restriction.

The Requirement for Restriction is respectfully traversed. The Requirement for Restriction is based, at least in part, on the ground that the invention(s) as set forth in the Office Action, are distinct and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by the cited classification and that the fields of search are not the same. In fact, Groups I and II are both classified in the same Class and Subclass. All of the art classes referred to in the Office Action properly would be searched even if the claims of Groups II and III did not exist. Group II claims a method of making a composition claimed in the Group I claims. Group III claims a process that uses the composition claimed in the Group I claims and made in the Group II claims.

The claims in Group I, drawn to a composition, Group II, drawn to a method of making the composition, and Group III, drawn to an alkylation process, are so closely related in this application to be allowable in a single application. All of the groups of claims clearly relate to entire processes either whole or in part useful for alkylation. The Examiner alleges that the composition claimed in the Group I claims could be made by a materially different process than the one in Group II. Applicants respectfully suggest that the method of making the composition, as claimed in the Group III claims is intimately related to the composition claimed in the Group I claims. The Examiner states that the Group II and Group III claims produce different products. Applicants respectfully suggest that one of the main aspects of the invention, as a whole is the use of the composition made in the Group II claims for the process claimed in the Group III claims. The Examiner is respectfully requested to see the example of the pending application, which provides data, to show that the

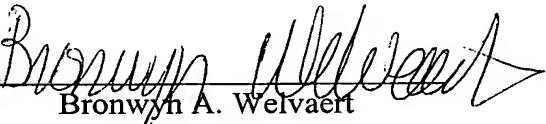
composition of the Group I claims can be used in the process claimed in the Group III claims. Additionally, the example provides information to show that the composition of the Group I claims can be made by the process of the Group II claims.

Furthermore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to refer to MPEP 803, second paragraph, which encourages combination, such as the combination of the Group I claims with the claims of Groups II and III in this application.

In view of the foregoing remarks, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-29 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

RICHMOND, HITCHCOCK,
FISH & DOLLAR

By 
Bronwyn A. Welvaert
Registration No. 52,350

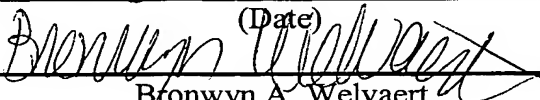
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RICHMOND, HITCHCOCK
FISH & DOLLAR
P.O. Box 2443
Bartlesville, Oklahoma 74005
918-661-0652

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

15 June, 2004

 (Date)
Bronwyn A. Welvaert